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OLC 72-0214

22 February 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with House Armed Services Committee Staff Concerning the Costing of Soviet R&D and Defense Programs, MBFR and Backfire

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1. Accompanied Messrs. Bruce Clarke, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] OSR, to a meeting with Messrs. Frank Slatinshek, John R. Blandford, and John Ford, House Armed Services Committee staff, concerning the costing of Soviet R&D and defense programs, MBFR, and Backfire. The major portion of the 50-minute meeting was spent in discussion of the Committee problem of handling and presentation of the military defense budget and the apparent conflict between the information provided in the Director's briefing of 8 February and informal briefings provided the Committee staff by Mr. Laird's and Dr. Foster's offices.

2. The Agency presentation on levels of effort and trends in Soviet military procurement and R&D was accepted without question and it was requested that the preliminary draft paper on costing of the Soviet effort be expanded to include illustrations. No time was set for return of the draft.

3. It was also requested that the level of support provided by host countries for Soviet occupation forces in the Warsaw Pact nations be provided. Outline of the background information available on the Backfire together with an outline of the MBFR negotiations over the period of the last year or so seemed to fulfill the Committee's needs for the moment.

4. No mention was made of the paper requested on Friday by Mr. Slatinshek concerning the Soviet position on MBFR.

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

Original - Subject

1 - Mr. Bruce Clarke

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